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### Montana State University Schools of Forestry and Business Administration working together on regional study

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FOR RELEASE THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

The Montana State University Schools of Forestry and Business Administration are working together on a segment of a regional study aimed at more rapid economic development of an area bounded on the west by Montana and on the east by Michigan, according to Forestry Dean Ross Williams and Business Dean Paul B. Blomgren.

The MSU schools are making a comprehensive analysis of all phases of the Montana forest-products industries, from timber production through manufacturing to marketing. The researchers will amass a fund of knowledge that will lay the groundwork for sound economic planning for the future, the deans said.

The project is supported by a \$9,900 grant to MSU from the Upper Midwest Economic Study, a joint undertaking of the Upper Midwest Research Development Council and the University of Minnesota. The UMES is a long-range analysis of present and potential economic resources of the area comprising the Ninth Federal Reserve District. The district encompasses Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Montana, northwestern Wisconsin and upper Michigan.

Dr. Arnold W. Bolle of the forestry faculty is director of MSU's part of the project. Dr. Gordon Lewis of the forestry staff and Robert C. Haring of the business faculty are assigned to the study this summer. Other faculty members serve as consultants on particular phases of the work.

Since June the researchers have been interviewing managers and owners, contractors, laborers and other forest-industry personnel. They expect to complete these interviews this summer and then to interview workers in credit, transportation and other fields related to the timber industry.

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